

ON THE TRAIL OF THE AMERICAN MISSIONARY

By WILLIAM T. ELLIS

This Distinguished American Journalist is Traveling Around the World for the Purpose of Investigating the American Foreign Missionary from a Purely Disinterested, Secular and Non-Sectarian Standpoint. Illustrated with Drawings and from Photographs.

Eye-Witness Describes Famine Scenes in China

Tsing-Kiang-Pu, China, Jan. 16, 1907.—It depends upon the bumps on a man's head what he will think of a great famine. If his scientific bump be large he will point out, dispassionately and fearlessly, that famines are one of the agencies of beneficent nature to keep down the surplus population, and to insure the survival of the fittest. They are painful like a surgeon's operation, but they are really a wise provision for the health of the whole mass of mankind.

"Why do you carry that baby?" asked my missionary friend of an aged, withered old woman in one of the famine refugee camps in central China, pointing to a starveling which the trembling old arms held. "There is no one else; the father and mother have both died." And plainly, the infant would soon follow them within the portals of starvation gate, through which so many hundreds are daily passing. The death of the parents, and the survival of that old woman and tiny babe, were famine paradoxes; for most of the victims at this stage are the very old and the very young. In still another instance, I saw a wrinkled, half-blind old grandmother seated on the bare and frozen ground, her only home in the camp, dividing with a wee child the thin rice gruel which she had managed to secure at the relief kitchen. How she ever made her way through that jam of voracious wild creatures I cannot tell; on the same day, at the same

At Tsing-Kiang-pu, a city of about 150,000 inhabitants, I saw tons of rice so displayed, and all the restaurants open to the street, while outside the city wall were encamped 300,000 famishing refugees, driven from their homes by want, and many of them dying daily from actual starvation. Yangchow has an encampment of 80,000 refugees, of whom the Chinese governor said that 1,000 died in a single night of cold and starvation. Nanking has three camps of these miserable mortals, with about 100,000 people in them, and Chinkiang has 30,000. These, moreover, are the strong who are able to pile their meager goods on the family wheelbarrow and travel south from the North River famine district; of the other myriads who are perishing in their homes, nothing can be said. No body has ever written a description of the death-throes of a rat in its hole.

If this were a properly symmetrical article it would have dealt at the outset with the summer rains and floods which inundated this great plain of central China, destroying the crops and, in thousands of cases, washing away the mud homes of the peasants. It would likewise have exploited the culpable inefficiency of the Chinese government for not having inaugurated a system of relief before the people began to drop from starvation. Also it would have pointed out the many public works right at hand upon which the famine sufferers could be

existence itself as the stake at issue, it is scarcely surprising to find reversions to beast-selfishness. So, when I saw a woman with two little children, one of them suffering from small-pox, living in a mat hut three feet high, three feet wide, and four or five feet long, I was not astonished to learn that her husband had deserted her; that has been the way of some husbands in every such disaster. The astonishing fact is that so many parents and husbands are loyal; it is really common among these uncounted famine victims to find the parents vain and emaciated and the little children comparatively ruddy. True, many parents are selling or giving away their children, and even drowning them, but this is usually an expression of solicitude for the child's welfare. Even the sale of little daughters into slavery must not be judged by occidental standards. Several mothers have begged me to buy their children, or to accept them as a gift. This morning I had pressed on me by a forlorn mother as healthy a specimen of Chinese babyhood as one would care to possess. Having been driven from the refuge camp, with her family and possessions on a wheelbarrow, she was on her way back to the country to starve, she said, and I fear she spoke truly.

Practically the entire famine district has been almost wholly cleared of live stock. "We have no beasts, and men are eating beasts' food," is the way one farmer succinctly put it. He meant that the people are living on grass, bark, roots, leaves and such like. This morning I inspected the houses of almost an entire village, looking for food—and such "bare, crude, filthy and comfortable homes they are—and nowhere did I see a grain of rice. The whole village is subsisting upon dried sweet potato leaves, which I found cooking over many stoves. Out here it is customary to extract the oil from peanuts and then to press peanuts, shells and all, into a hard cake as cattle fodder. Beans are treated in the same manner. Now these dried cakes are sold as food for human beings. I watched one man, on whose features grim hunger had written large his signature, buy a portion of this. He was given a wedge about four inches long, three inches deep, and possibly two inches wide at the outer edge, for 20 cash, which is two-thirds of the government allowance per day for an adult. The avidity with which he seized and devoured a few additional crumbs—the "little more" that goes with every bargain in China—was eloquent of the cravings of his body.

This dose of 30 daily cash—equivalent to one and a half cents, American currency—the Chinese government pledges to give every sufferer in the famine district north of the Yangtze river. It really seems as if the higher officials are in earnest, and extraordinary efforts are being made to prevent "squeezing" by the other officials through whose hands the money must pass. This is one of the manifestations of a "new" China which about these days. Of course, the attempt is not wholly successful, and myriads of starving people have not received a single cash. Most of those who have been encamped, obviously, outside of the walls of several cities have been helped; for the officials fear them. Now, with force and fair promises, the larger part of these refugees are being driven back into the country. All of them distrust the official promises of help. The assistance that is at present extended is not expected to hold out for a month, since a cent and a half a day given to 2,000,000 persons is a sum to tax any treasury.

Foreign relief is being distributed in the form of flour to bring down the prices. "Famine prices," is no mere phrase here; the cost of all foodstuffs has risen 200 per cent. or more. The missionaries, who have been chosen by the general relief committee at Shanghai to disburse the world's bounty, are busy dotting the stricken regions with depots for the sale of food, thus making every dollar given count twice its worth throughout the entire six months of distress; for the worst will not be over until July. (Copyright, 1907, by Joseph B. Bowles.)

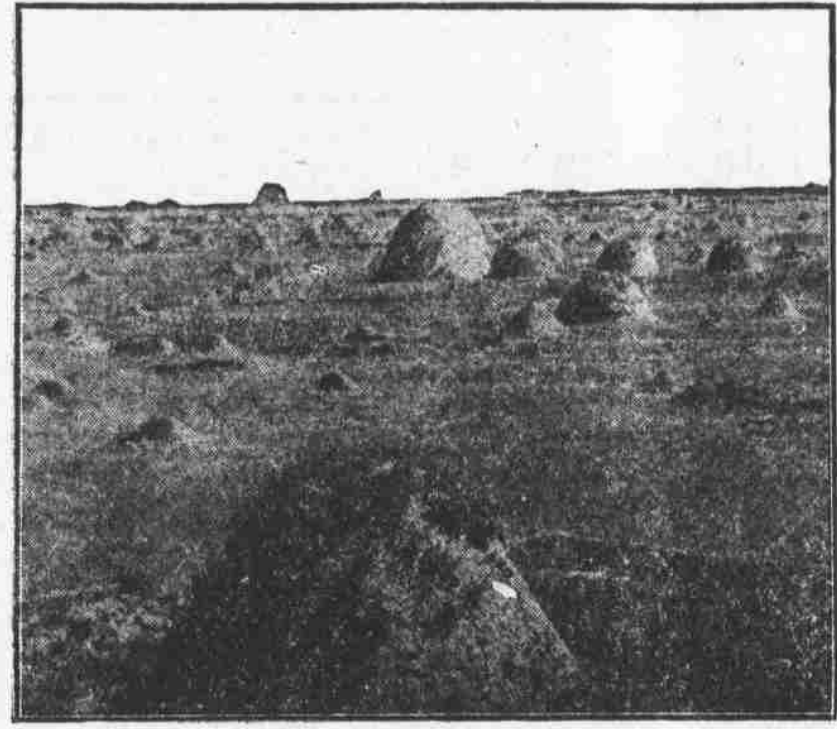
RIFT IN LOVE'S COURSE.
Beautiful Girl's Demand Shocked Adoring Suitor.

"Jack Harkalong, let go of my hand!"
In low, tense tones these words fell from the proud lips of the beautiful Myrtle Kerneggy.
A cold perspiration broke out on the high, broad forehead of the young man.
"What's the grouch now, my peerless marshmallow?" he demanded hoarsely. "Of what have I been guilty?"
"Jack Harkalong, let go of my hand!"
"Your words move me strangely, gentle maiden, but they don't loosen my grip. Most beautiful girl, listen! Not even at your bidding is a set of phalangeal muscles, trained, developed and hardened by years of assiduous strap hanging, to be made to yield their—"

"Jack Harkalong let go of my hand!"
"What for?" he howled.
"Because," she answered, in the same low, tense tones, "I wish to adjust my back hair!"
And in the shadow of the Sacred Cod! Any intention or neglect on part of employee, if reported to the cashier or head waiter, will be deemed a favor to the management.—From a Boston Hotel Bill of Fare.

A few hundred yards farther on I came to a newly-made grave, evidently of a son and husband. It was one of many recent graves along the main highway to Peking. On one side of it crouched a wrinkled, bent and tattered old mother, with scarcely sufficient vitality to make her mourning heard. After a time she arose and with her bare hands heaped clods of earth upon the conical grave mound. The widow, who could afford no mourning garb except a small square of white cloth the size of a handkerchief upon her head, wept and wailed as only an oriental woman can do. Her body shook with shuddering sob. All the grief of the ages seemed embodied in her mourning. This famine means more to those two lonely women than it does to my scientific friend.

Near the same spot a middle-aged man, with some mourning rags of white upon him, fell on his knees as we approached, and clutched at our clothing. Plainly, he had gone to pieces. He was a nervous wreck, as well as a starving man. He had just been out burying his old mother, and grief, combined with hunger, had been too much for him. So, in an almost delirious frenzy, he besought the honorable foreigners with noble hearts to help him. Our only possible course was to shake him off and pass on. In an elemental struggle such as this, between man and hunger, with



A Chinese Cemetery—Thousands of Famine-Stricken Persons Are Piled in the Ground and Covered with the Earth.

place, I saw a man so crushed by the jam that he could not get to the mission hospital without help. The cruel, crowding selfishness of the Chinese in the scramble for daily bread, under ordinary circumstances is more elemental and unconcealed than anything known in the West; add actual starvation as a motive, and you unchain all the savage beasts that lurk in the recesses of human nature.

A few days ago a missionary at Suchien thought to alleviate a modicum of the distress that surrounded him by distributing 100 work tickets to able-bodied men, using relief funds for payment. When the hour of distribution arrived (it was very early in the morning) a mob of 1,000 men, each determined to seize this chance for work, no matter who might get left, surged around the missionary. They crushed him and finally bore him down—all with no evil intention—and trampled him under foot, until he was rescued, unconscious, only with greatest difficulty, and his life barely saved.

That is the sort of thing, and worse, which the authorities fear when they refuse to allow individuals to go out into the camps and disburse relief. It is more than a little trying to a white man's nerves to have starving people clutching at his coat, or falling on the ground before him, or holding forth hungry children for his pity, while he dare not ease his feelings by scattering the few coppers that are jingling in his pocket. But the rule is rigid, and doubtless wise, that not a copper penny or a brass cash may be given out directly.

In fact, the officials, as well as most other observers, rather anticipate serious outbreaks as a consequence of the famine. Let nobody delude himself into the belief that the Chinese are the abject serfs of an autocratic government; the hundreds of mandarins who have been beaten, dipped in huge jars of filth, covered with mud, stoned and otherwise ill-treated by mobs, know far different. The Chinese are nearly always ripe for riot. At any moment the big world which has been so callous to the awfulness of this famine that has swept away the entire subsistence of 3,000,000 people, out of a total population of 10,000,000, dwelling in an area of 40,000 square miles, may be startled into attention by a great outbreak of mad, mob desperation, in which all the foreigners within reach may perish. If so, be it remembered that peace and self-restraint are qualities scarcely to be expected of men in the throes of actual starvation.

These famishing Chinese are, as a matter of observation, displaying a respect for law which could be expected of no western people similarly situated. I have been amazed to see heaps of rice and other food-stuffs freely exposed for sale on the sidewalks of streets along which daily pass hundreds of men, in the indescribable grip of the primitive passion of hunger, yet not a grain was stolen.

FOOL THE PEOPLE

MOTTO OF "GET-RICH-QUICK" MEN AND FAKIRS.

HOW SCHEMES ARE WORKED

Desire to Get "Something for Nothing" Is Played Upon—Exercise of Common Sense Would End Graft.

"You can fool some of the people part of the time, but you can fool others all the time," seems to be a motto of the get-rich-quick men and "gold brick" operators. Pages of the daily and weekly press may be filled with warnings to readers to be on the lookout for swindlers, yet many who are credited with intelligence will keep right on biting at baits thrown out to them by various concerns who sell "cats in bags."

Psychologists say that every person has a weak spot somewhere in the brain. It seems that this softness is commonly manifested in false reasoning that frequently one can get something for nothing. Understanding this desire on part of the majority, the fakirs bait their hooks accordingly. There are large concerns which have built up great enterprises by representing to the people that with each bill of goods purchased the buyer gets "something for nothing."

Just think of a "graft" like this that will draw \$1,800 worth of goods in a single month from a town of 6,000 people! But this is just what has been done within the past few months. Just think of wives of grocers and dry goods merchants in large cities joining "soap clubs" and paying a dollar each month to a foreign concern just to secure a premium, while their husbands could supply them at half the cost all the soap and the premium too! Yet such is the drawing power of "the something for nothing" argument. If the Creator gave these women common sense, they little know how to utilize it.

Some means should be devised to tax directly or indirectly the concerns in foreign cities that seek to do business directly with consumers through the mails. At present they are protected by the interstate commerce law. These concerns make their money by dealing with the people of some community, where they pay no taxes direct or license fees.

The merchants of the town are taxed upon the business they do. Is this proposition a fair one? The foreign insurance companies doing business in a state must pay a license fee for so doing. Why not compel the foreign mercantile concern to do the same? Our national laws should be so constructed as to provide that there be a tax on the amount of business transacted in a state by any mercantile concern in another state, unless the business be transacted by concerns which pay taxes within the state for the doing of such business.

D. M. CARR.

FOR GREATER ECONOMY.

Manufacturing Drifting Closer to Fields Where Raw Material Is Produced.

Economy in every industry is becoming more pronounced year after year. Manufacturing centers are drifting toward locations where the raw materials can be secured at lower cost. During the past ten years cotton manufacturing in the south has increased more than a hundred per cent., and there has been a decrease in the production of textile manufacturing centers in the New England states in proportion to the increase in consumption. A score of years ago the great flour manufacturing centers were in New York and other eastern states. Today the wheat controls manufactures of flour and cereal foods. When mills are located in centers of wheat and corn producing sections in number sufficient to utilize the crops of local territory, it will work a benefit to the farmers of the land in the saving of what is now paid in freight rates or raw products to manufacturing centers, and the distribution cost to consumers of the land. Every farmer can help better conditions and help himself by giving his support to local manufacturing enterprises.

Give Charm to Town.
Attractive streets, well paved, good sidewalks, clean appearing buildings, signs arranged well, all go to add a charm to a town. One of the things that often gives strangers to a town a bad impression is the loose manner in which storekeepers and others take care of the exterior of their places. Often not a sign about the place is to be found to designate the character of the business carried on, and this can only be known by a peep through the open door. The windows are often arranged in such a way as to give little knowledge of the goods handled. During the summer time awnings hanging low over the walks, so the passer-by must stoop to avoid them, are found in many places. Just a little care is needed to improve along these lines. An attractive sign does not cost much and is a good investment for the storekeeper. Cleanliness in front of business places makes a good impression. In fact strangers will seldom enter a store if the outside appearance indicates slovenliness and carelessness. The up-to-date merchant will always be found with a well-cared-for establishment. It is quite often you can tell the business importance of a man in the community by the appearance of his store. Make business places attractive as possible. It may cost you a little money, a little extra labor, but it will pay in the long run.

Building Up Trusts.

During the past ten years billions of dollars have been sent to large cities by the residents of rural communities, and these billions have been used in building up trusts that work against the best interests of the masses who reside in agricultural sections. Is it not time to awaken to the dangers of sending money away from the home towns?

MAKING CHEAP GOODS.

Low Prices Too Often Mean Inferior Articles.

Efforts to cheapen cost of production of numerous classes of goods and to place them on the market in competition with well advertised lines and at much lower prices, has influenced not too honest manufacturers to turn out very inferior articles. So long as they can be made attractive in exterior appearance so as to please those whose tastes are for the "showy" seems to be the only consideration. In the manufacture of stoves and ranges particularly is there great opportunity for fraud. In different cities of the middle west are large concerns that make a specialty of manufacturing stoves to supply dealers who depend on cheapness to secure sales. These manufacturers buy from junk dealers all classes of old iron, and this remelted and worked over enters largely into their manufactured articles. The result is that a stove is produced that while it appears to be all right, a few months use will prove it to be almost worthless. The tensile strength is not there, the metal is rotten and brittle and the expansion caused by the heat makes it warp and crack. The linings are of the poorest material.

One of the tricks employed is the use of old sheet iron for lining. Throughout the south and in many of the large northern cities the manufacture of artificial ice is extensively carried on. Galvanized iron cans of the capacity of a 300-pound ice-cake are used, and in every large plant thousands of cans are in use. The ammonia that is used in the process of freezing soon causes the cans to corrode, and then they are rendered useless for the purpose required. The stove manufacturing concerns buy up these discarded cans, and use them for lining stoves. It can be judged that the life of the stove in this way is shortened, but as the stoves are never intended to last long, the lining is as good as the other material which enters into their composition. In appearance these stoves are all that can be desired, but their wearing and durable qualities are not half that of a properly made stove should be. They are often sold at as high prices as the best article, but more frequently are disposed of as "big bargains," and are dealt in extensively by concerns that advertise themselves as "manufacturers," and do business "direct with the consumers" through the mails. Makers of stoves who put out brands of goods known to be standard never resort to such methods, as one inferior stove might result in the loss of a dozen sales, and no reputable stove dealer or hardware merchant would handle the goods.

D. M. CARR.

HOME NEWSPAPERS.

Are Factors in the Enlightenment of the People.

This is an era when the business man who would succeed must place the right value upon publicity. This is the most enlightened era the world has ever known. Only a small percentage of the people, particularly among the English speaking, cannot read and write, and in fact it is a rare thing to find an illiterate person in any American community.

In every farmer's house can be found from one to a dozen newspapers and periodicals. The old-style farmer is fast passing and there is a general admission that intelligence, in a general scientific training is needed on the farm as well as in the business house and factory. With telephones, daily rural delivery service and every innovation of civilization, the American farmer is fast becoming noted among the educated and advanced classes. They are readers, thinkers and logicians. Growing generations in agricultural communities have all the advantages that the youth of cities have, and few of the disadvantages. They surely breathe a healthier moral atmosphere. The farmers are the main support of the country press. They feel interested in all local affairs, and the home paper is the means of keeping them informed of things going on immediately about them. If the average merchant would give as substantial support to the home paper as does the farmer, the editor would not only be enabled to give the farmer a better paper, represent his interests better, but the merchant would receive a benefit in seeing his town improve and his business increased, and all his environments improved.

Overcrowded Fields.
The growing seriousness of the mail order houses cutting into the trade of the country merchants no doubt will bring about a change in their method of doing business. The keepers of stores in small cities and towns must change from obsolete ways and adopt modern mercantile methods, or seek some other vocation.

In the small towns the expenses of conducting business are less than in the large city, and while it may be true that goods cannot be bought for the prices paid by the big city dealers, and freight rates in some cases may be higher, conditions could be bettered if the merchants would only set about to meet competition as they should.

A district containing an average population can support only a limited number of stores. Too often it is the case that there are more stores than is needed to supply the wants of the community. Such a condition is caused chiefly by those who desire to enter mercantile life, exercising poor judgment in selecting a location. They enter an over-crowded town and fail to follow sound good business principles. The result is failure, or a mere struggle and an injury to the interests of the town in which they are located.

"It Pays to Advertise."
The merchant who believes "that advertising is just throwing away money," can hardly hold out well when there is any competition to meet. He might succeed in running a crossroad store in some pioneer country, but he has little place in the business world where it is essential that up-to-date methods be employed.

WOMAN'S INTERESTS

THINGS OF BEAUTY

EFFECTIVE DRAPERIES FOR THE DINING ROOM.

No Feature Is of More Importance as a Means of Beautifying Apartments with Minimum of Expense.

Perhaps no one feature in the furnishing of a room is so important as the draperies. These more than anything else give character to their surroundings, and make an otherwise commonplace room look individual and comfortable. The success of draperies depends largely on the way in which they are hung, but this is a matter of which the average housewife thinks but little.

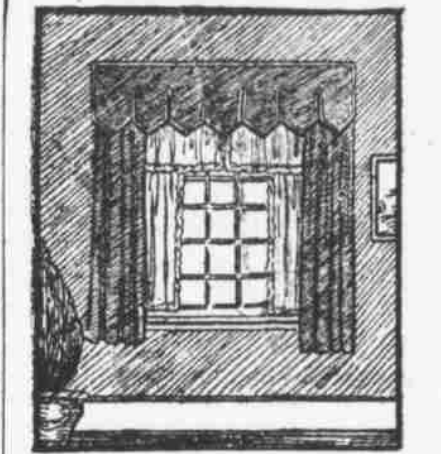
Often expensive lace curtains are seen hung with rings on a heavy brass rod, and placed outside from the window casing, taking the place of the heavy over-drapes. These thin lace curtains should be used as sash curtains only, and should be hung within the casing close to the sashes. The heavy poles and rings are suitable only for over-drapes.

These over-drapes are a very desirable addition to a room, and they should be of some heavy material to fit into the color scheme of the room. Usually they are hung outside the window, though sometimes, if the woodwork is particularly good, they are hung within. If the window reaches to the floor, the draperies should do the same.

The illustration shows a simple treatment especially suitable for a

dining room. Either linen, wool or cotton material may be used for these hangings, of a color suitable for the room in which they are used. Drapery of this style is especially appropriate with white woodwork and colonial furniture.

The curtains are edged with white or cream mohair braid one inch wide and finished at the corners with a simple design. The formal valance is



New Window Draperies.

stretched on a valance board or cornice lath along the top of the window casing, and braided in the same way as the hangings.

Buckram or butcher's linen should be used to interline the valance, in order to get the stiff effect. Unbleached muslin sash curtains are appropriate when cotton or linen over-drapes are used. If the furnishing of the room is elaborate, the curtains may be of silk or pongee. A two-inch hem couched down with heavy silk floss serves to give them a finish.

FOR WEAR AT HOME.

Simple and Popular Designs in the Negligees Worn.

Comparatively simple negligees of crepe or silk, hanging loose from the shoulders and cut with kimono sleeves or left sleeveless, are made effective by a gümpe or tuck and loose sleeves of lace and by a band of trimming which borders the round, low-cut neck, runs down one side of the front to the hem and finishes the armholes or the kimono sleeves. This model is made, too, in the cashmere and in chiffon broadcloth, the latter proving a most desirable material for the purpose, if one cares for a little warmth in such a robe.

Genuine kimono models, with sash and all, are popular and are shown in colorings and designs calculated to attract any woman. Crepe is usually the material and some beautifully embroidered kimonos are all in one tone, but more often lining and embroidery contrast in subtle harmony with the color of the robe.

One of the loveliest kimonos we have ever seen was in a shop noted for the variety and beauty of its negligee models, and was in soft gray crepe, light of tone, yet nearer dove than pearl. The crepe was of beautiful quality and on it were embroidered faintly purple iris and creamy yellow butterflies. The lining of the robe was a delicate creamy yellow.

FOR THE WARM WEATHER.
Pretty Bodice Effective in Any of the Thin Materials.

This is a pretty bodice of voile, cologne, or any thin woolen material; it is made on a fitting lining, and has a vest of finely tucked silk or crepe

de-chine with collar-band of the same. The material is draped horizontally in front, and fastens rather to the side under ribbons with rosettes at either end. The large rounded revers and collar are lace with silk half way over. The material of sleeves is cut away

Nothing could be quieter than some of the coats contrived with cloth for some of the smart tailored frocks. Although the empire vest is a dainty feature of these coats, the general empire effect is gradually giving way to other models, particularly the semi-cutaway designs, with fronts smartly rounded away and finished with several rows of stitching or a binding of elegant silk braid.

Redfern shows a tailored gown in very dull mauve cloth, the skirt having two broad box plaits on either side of the front, the plaits beginning just above the knees. Across the top of these are stitched two straight bands of the cloth, finished at either edge with large buttons covered with mauve moire, encircled in dull gold rims. The coat is piped with modern brown moire, a rather queer sounding combination, but an effect beautiful to look at. The platings outline stitchings of the cloth, which follow the curved lines of the coat, and the empire vest is made entirely of the brown moire, with handsome metal buttons stitched down either side. The shoulders are long in effect, and one might describe the sleeves as a series of cuffs, for they are stitched with bands of cloth, secured only at the lower edge, each standing out beyond the outside seam, cufflike, with a large button setting off each band. At the wrists there is a wide plating of brown that appears anywhere else on the coat, and the sleeves have sufficient novelty about them to suggest the coming of fall.

DICTATES OF FASHION.
Many of the sleeves show bewitching puffs above the elbows, with a cuff binding it just below. This in turn is supplemented by old little lace cuffs, which reach quite half way down the forearm.

The black iris, a strange and weird flower brought into fashion by Jean Torrains and adopted since by most women who aim at originality, is just now enjoying considerable success.

Net, closely dotted, is tied into big, flaunting bows, to be worn under the chin. Some of the bows are shown in white with colored dots and others are in palest pinks, lavenders and blues.

There are short sashes shown in many dresses, especially those slightly short-waisted in the back. Other belts are made of inch and a half gold or silver ribbon, weighted with tassels.

One finds crush belts of soft leather, the chief attraction being in the novel design of the buckle; white leather belts, bearing designs in soft shadings, hand finished with buckles repeating the color of the decoration and many another attractive models in leather.

Summer Negligees.
Flowered organdies, lace-trimmed, are always pressed into service by the designers of negligees and the India silks are popular negligee materials for hot weather wear. Too much cannot be said in praise of the designs and colorings of the season's challs and for a practical bodice gown which will give a little more warmth than India silk or muslin it would be hard to find anything more durable than one of these pretty challs.

Exquisite tea gowns are fashioned from the striped crepes, messalines, foulards, etc., in one-tone coloring or in Pekin effects of pale blue and white, lavender and white and kindred effects; and very often liberty satins are ideal tea gown stuffs, because they fall in such graceful, clinging fashion, crumple so little and wear so well.



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TO HOLD THE BELTS.

Devices That Give Originality to the Girdles Worn.

Methods of holding the back of the belt in broad girdle shapes are many, and to these devices a majority of the belts owe their originality. In a large number of the new models these narrow slides are of metal, plain or set with little jewels and long enough to hold the soft girdle to its full width, are set close together at the bottom and spreading fan fashion toward the top, while at the front the belt narrows to the width of a small buckle, harmonizing with the slide. Folded girdles are of soft leather deep around, set with steel points along the top and finished in front by long steel buckles. Some of the new leather girdles are scalloped around the edges and with large raised dots moderately deep in the back are held there by long enameled slides, but narrowing to the width of a small buckle in front. Girdles plain behind, but wide in front, with a handsome jeweled buckle, are also among the new belts.